CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

independently.

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	SECURITY INFORMATION		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	25X1
COUNTRY	Austria	REPORT		
SUBJECT	Soviet Mail and Telephone Censorship	DATE DISTR.	4 March 1953	
	Activities in Vienna	NO. OF PAGES	2	
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1. Apart from the official mail censorship office, which is subordinate to the Ministry of Interior, the Soviets are operating mail and telephone censorhip

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- 2. The Soviet mail censorship office appears to be the "Briefzensurstelle Z 6" which is installed at the post office at the South Station (Suedbahnhof), Vienna X. Head of this office is one (fmu) Weihs. The telephone censorship office "Dienststelle Z 5" is installed at the dentral telephone exchange, Vienna I, Schillerplatz 4. This office is subordinate to "Briefzensurstelle Z 6" and is headed by one (fmu) Schleger, Weihs' deputy. The majority of the employees of both offices are Communist party members.
- 3. The chiefs of both offices are Soviet officers, whose office appears to be at Vienna IV, Technikergasse. Approximately 70 men of a Boviet communication unit are also employed at the central telephone exchange.
- 4. There are lists of persons, whose incoming and outgoing mail is of special interest to the Soviets. Phone calls in foreign languages are recorded by dictaphone and translated by a team of interpreters headed by one (fnu) Krepela.
- 5. A special group commanded by two Soviet officers is employed for monitoring local phone calls especially between government offices. This group has no permanent office, but works at different telephone exchanges and switch boards.
- 6. According to Soviet regulations, the censors have to concentrate on the following items: Troop movements, construction of military installations, political events, business transactions, production of factories and counter intelligence.
- 7. For some weeks the Soviet censorship (Suedbahnhof office) has used a horizontal stamp "Zensur".

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8. Some time ago the Soviets have also established a censorship office in Urfahr, Upper Austria. It frequently happens that mail is collected from trains at Amstetten and St. Valentin, and is sent on to Urfahr for censoring.

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